

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, November 28, 1900

Volta Bureau, November 28, 1900. DICTATED. Dear Mabel:—

I am mad — whopping mad. Here I have arrived at the Volta Bureau, everything beautifully arranged for me, and lots of things to be done, and I decided that this first day at the Bureau should be given up to you, and you alone. Business letters, Census matters, &c., &c. might all wait, but this day was to be sacred to you. I have collected notes for a volume to you, to be let off the moment I could get at Miss Safford, so today I arranged for her to desert the Census Office, and spend the whole day on a letter to you.

BUT — I had to write to Mr. Booth about the Review that is coming out in a day or two, in a hurry, and I had to give Mrs. Pratt some instructions as to what material to collect for Chapter VII in New York, where she is now. These letters proved longer than I intended and took up more time. However we got them off, press copied and mailed, and then I was setting myself down with a cigar in my mouth to commence writing to you, when — a gentleman for me. Can't see him, tell him I am busy. See what he wants, refer him to Mr. Hitz. But the gentleman did not want to see Mr. Hitz or Miss Safford. He wanted to see the President of the National Geographic Society. Of course this was another matter. He stated also that he had a letter from Prof. Holmes of the National Museum, so of course, my unlighted cigar was put down, off went my dressing gown and slippers, and on went a collar and a pair of cuffs and a decent coat, and I had to brush up before a looking glass, and woden I went to see the Rev. gentleman.

The usual thing happened — when I go to see people whose names I don't know — you know what I mean — TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS THIS TIME. Don't you think I have reason

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to be mad. My time has all gone, and I don't want to keep Miss Safford here over time, and worse than all my thoughts are all broken up, and my temper — well —

Good night,

Your loving husband Alec. Mrs A. Graham Bell c/o Munroe & Co Paris — France Belongs in drawer 18 DR. BELL' ROOM. Hubbard Memorial Hall 1156 - 16th Street, Washington, D. C. (To be continued in our next).